

Page 120-Paragraph 2658, line 7; read:
navigation maintained by SPRR Bridge.

§165.812 Security Zones: Lower Mississippi River, Southwest Pass Sea Buoy to Mile Marker 96.0, New Orleans, LA.

(a) *Location.* Within the Lower Mississippi River and Southwest Pass, moving security zones are established around all cruise ships between the Southwest Pass Entrance Lighted Buoy "SW", at approximate position 28°52'42"N., 89°25'54"W. [NAD 83] and Lower Mississippi River mile marker 96.0 in New Orleans, Louisiana. These moving security zones encompass all waters within 500 yards of a cruise ship. These zones remain in effect during the entire transit of the vessel and continue while the cruise ship is moored or anchored.

(b) *Regulations.* (1) Entry of persons and vessels into these zones is prohibited unless authorized as follows.

(i) Vessels may enter within 500 yards but not closer than 100 feet of a cruise ship provided they operate at the minimum speed necessary to maintain a safe course.

(ii) No person or vessel may enter within 100 feet of a cruise ship unless expressly authorized by the Coast Guard Captain of the Port New Orleans or his designated representative.

(iii) Moored vessels or vessels anchored in a designated anchorage area are permitted to remain within 100 feet of a cruise ship while it is transit.

(2) Vessels requiring entry within 500 yards of a cruise ship that cannot slow to the minimum speed necessary to maintain a safe course must request express permission to proceed from the Captain of the Port New Orleans or his designated representative.

(3) For the purpose of this rule the term "cruise ship" is defined as a passenger vessel over 100 gross tons, carrying more than 12 passengers for hire, making a voyage lasting more than 24 hours, any part of which is on high seas, and for which passengers are embarked or disembarked in the United States or its territories.

(4) The Captain of the Port New Orleans will inform the public of the moving security zones around cruise ships via Marine Safety Information Broadcasts.

(5) To request permission as required by these regulations contact "New Orleans Traffic" via VHF Channels 13/67 or via phone at (504) 589-2780 or (504) 589-6261.

(6) All persons and vessels within the moving security zones shall comply with the instructions of the Captain of the Port New Orleans and designated on-scene U.S. Coast Guard patrol personnel. On-scene U.S. Coast Guard patrol personnel

include commissioned, warrant, and petty officers of the U.S. Coast Guard.

(c) *Authority.* In addition to 33 U.S.C. 1231, the authority for this section includes 33 U.S.C. 1226.

§165.813 Security Zones; Ports of Houston and Galveston, TX.

(a) *Location.* Within the Ports of Houston and Galveston, Texas, moving security zones are established encompassing all waters with 500 yards of a cruise ship between Galveston Bay Approach Lighted Buoy "GB", at approximate position 29°21'18"N., 94°37'36"W. [NAD 83] and up to, and including, Barbours Cut. These zones remain in effect during the inbound and outbound entire transit of the cruise ship and continues while the cruise ship is moored or anchored.

(b) *Regulations.* (1) Entry of vessels or persons into these zones is prohibited unless authorized as follows.

(i) Vessels may enter within 500 yards but not closer than 100 yards of a cruise ship provided they operate at the minimum speed necessary to maintain a safe course.

(ii) No person or vessel may enter within 100 yards of a cruise ship unless expressly authorized by the Coast Guard Captain of the Port Houston-Galveston. Where the Houston Ship Channel narrows to 400 feet or less between Houston Ship Channel Entrance Lighted Bell Buoy "18", light list no. 34385 at approximately 29°21'06"N., 94°47'00"W. [NAD 83] and Barbours Cut, the Captain of the Port Houston-Galveston may permit vessels that must transit the navigable channel between these points to enter within 100 yards of a cruise ship.

(iii) Moored vessels or vessels anchored in a designated anchorage area are permitted to remain within 100 yards of a cruise ship while it is in transit.

(2) Vessels requiring entry within 500 yards of a cruise ship that cannot slow to the minimum speed necessary to maintain a safe course must request express permission to proceed from the Captain of the Port Houston-Galveston, or his designated representative.

(3) For the purpose of this section the term "cruise ship" is defined as a passenger vessel over 100 gross tons, carrying more than 12 passengers for hire, making a voyage lasting more than 24 hours, any part of which is on the high seas, and for which passengers are embarked or disembarked in the United States or its territories.

(4) The Captain of the Port Houston-Galveston will inform the public of the moving security zones around cruise ships via Marine Safety Information Broadcasts.

(5) To request permission as required by these regulations contact "Houston Traffic" via VHF Channels 11/12 or via phone at (713) 671-5103.

(6) All persons and vessels within the moving security zone shall comply with the instructions of the Captain of the Port Houston-Galveston and designated on-scene U.S. Coast Guard patrol personnel. On-scene U.S. Coast Guard patrol personnel include commissioned, warrant, and petty officers of the U.S. Coast Guard.

(c) *Authority.* In addition to 33 U.S.C. 1231, the authority for this section includes 33 U.S.C. 1226.

(FR 10/03/02; FR 10/17/02)

Port Security - Security Zones for Cruise Ships - Separation Criteria

Why does the U.S. Coast Guard believe a 100 foot buffer zone is adequate for cruise ships on the Lower Mississippi River and a 100 yard buffer zone is the criteria for the Houston/Galveston waterway?

On the Lower Mississippi River berthed naval vessels are protected with a 100 yard buffer zone whereas berthed cruise ships are protected with only a 100 feet Buffer Zone. This Relates to a 100 feet beam vessel passing within a beam width of cruise ships. Allowing this is not in the best interest of safe navigation or Port Security.

A 100 Yard Buffer Zone is certainly a more appropriate good seamanship practice and Regulation CFR 33 - 165.812 should be changed accordingly.